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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerd Hofmann et al. Art Unit : Unknown
Serial No. : New U.S. National Phase Application Examiner : Unknown
Filed : December 23, 2004
Title : BRANCHING DEVICE FOR AN ELECTRIC LINE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as indicated on the following pages.

Amendments to the Specification begin at page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.